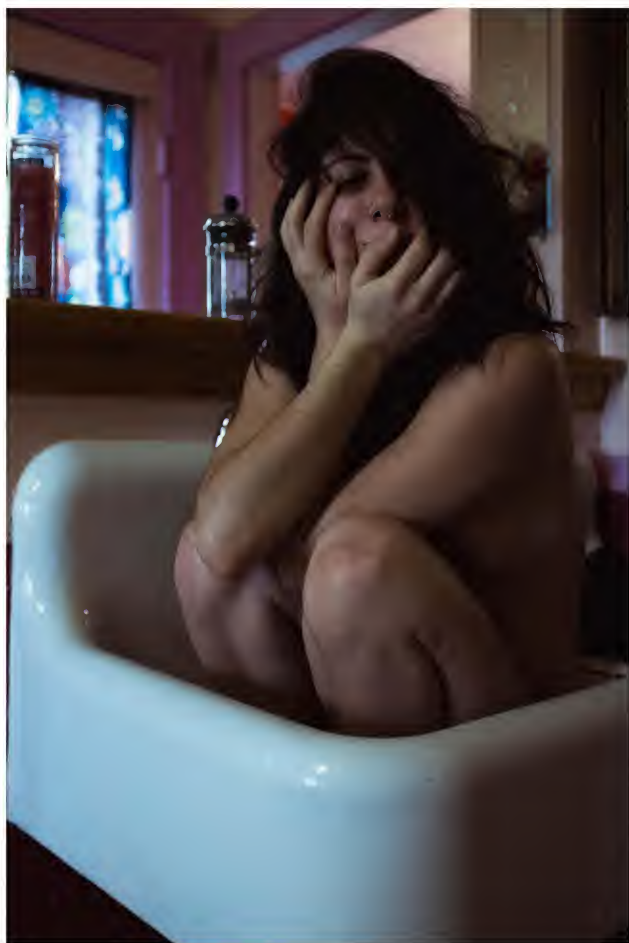




# poLEMICAL zine

ISSUE 05: HUMAN



cover art:

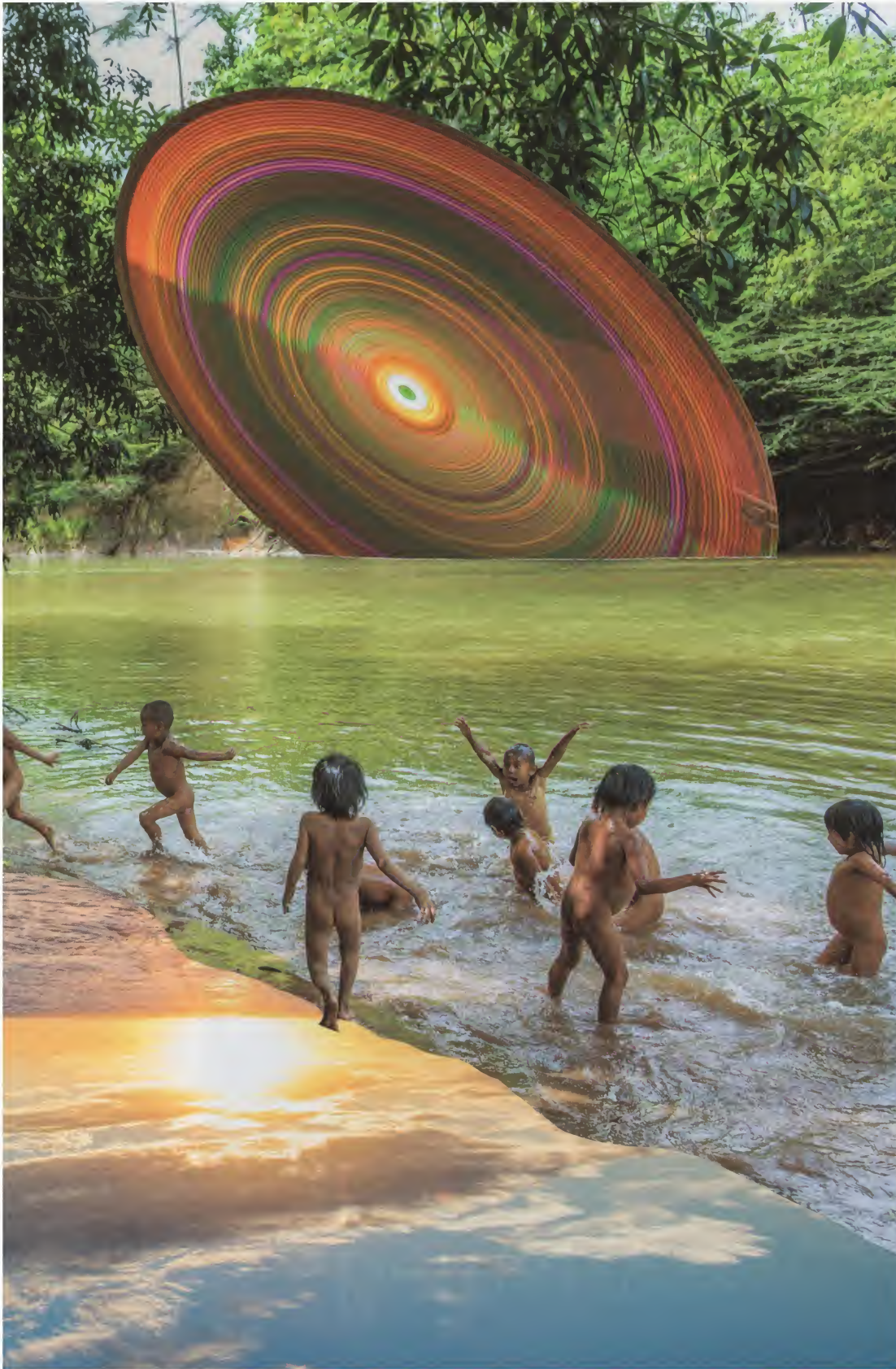
**Sam in the kitchen sink I**  
Sherilyn Furneaux  
@bigbabyintoyland



FOR ALL OF US - **we are all human.**







Dear rea

Have yo  
allegedly

Have yo  
uncondi  
treat you  
on your a

What is i  
we forge  
finishes,  
back, an  
roles we

We are f  
we think

So to the  
across th  
light you

We are c  
homeles  
others as

As if we

But I don

And you

Much lov  
Rebecca

\*All work  
publicati

## Eternal Life In The Kingdom Of

Collage The World | @collagetheworld | facebook.com/collagetheworld

I grew up going to Fenwick Island near Rehoboth Beach, DE on summer vacation. The sunset photo comes from a Delaware tourism magazine that I picked up at a rest stop earlier this year on a road trip. Original photo of Yomibato River by Charlie Hamilton James.



# ***DEAR READER...***



der,

u ever felt less than human? Belittled – shamed relentlessly – and ridiculed by those who  
y have “more” than you?

u had your flaws circled twice over in red by people who were supposed to love you  
tionally? Have you blamed yourself for the ways you were hurt? And have you triumphed to  
rself better, or have you been forced to follow their example by retracing the dark bruises  
arms so they never quite heal? Them and the bruises, both.



t that makes us human? And do we all get to be? We have the same wants and needs, but  
t we are the same since the vessels of our souls are painted differently. An array of hues,  
and mismatched patterns decorate the earth and nobody sees it as art. Our paints peel  
d we are flesh and bone and spirit, uninterrupted. We try to interrupt with cries about the  
play. The roles we *want* to play.



ree, we think. And we are stuck, we think. And we are human. We are all just human. And  
so very often.

e artists: Never let them tell you otherwise. Take your emotions and paint your patterns  
he earth and the sky. There is not, and has never been, anybody quite like you, so grasp any  
can and shine it from the cracks of our painted houses before the night falls. Please.

called “sick”, “disabled”, and “mentally ill”. Minorities are forgotten, and those experiencing  
sness aren’t referred to by name. Our situations and experiences illustrate our worlds to  
s if our ships have broken in unnatural ways.

will never make it back to shore.



n’t feel shipwrecked. We’ll cast a sail, and if that doesn’t work, we’ll swim.

know what? I hope we go on an adventure.



ve,  
a McLaren

x is the property of its original artist. Thoughts and opinions expressed in the works of this  
on belong to each individual and independent author.\*





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# *All Dolled Up*

Nara Monteiro | @\_narsbar

She will come in the mail—  
one of the new ones,  
with the silicone skin  
that feels raw and sticky  
(it feels real, but like a wound)  
and all of the customizable features.  
She will be a dream body—literally  
soft as clouds and looking  
just like the woman in my head last night.  
I want her hair brown  
and her chest warm;  
green eyes and  
long, tapered fingers  
to run circles up my back.



When she arrives, I  
eagerly strip away the cardboard and  
bubble wrap  
free her from her bonds  
carefully store her instructions  
most people don't come with instructions  
tuck her in to bed  
shiver naked in the dark, watching her  
before crawling in under the covers.  
I have to give her time to fall asleep  
it's not easy  
in a strange house  
in a stranger's bed,  
but she is perfectly still  
right away.  
I almost wish there was something whirring  
or clicking  
like a breath  
or a nighttime jerk.



In the morning, I call the company  
and complain.  
When I send her back, they ask me  
what I didn't like, and tell me that  
after examining it, they can't  
give me a refund, you see  
well the thing is  
there are no defects, and  
I never even used it





### **To Know Loneliness**

Shayla Simone

@melodramaticsighs

This photo is a part of a series I did that deals with summer nostalgia and expectations, that may seemingly fall short most of the time. In this photo, Nadia (the lovely model) is dressed in what may seem like party attire, but she is sitting alone on the diving board of her pool, with no one else around. And there will be times when you're surrounded by others, and there will be times you feel lonely. There will even be times where you'll be in a crowd of people, but you'll still feel alone. It's because you're only human. We're only human.



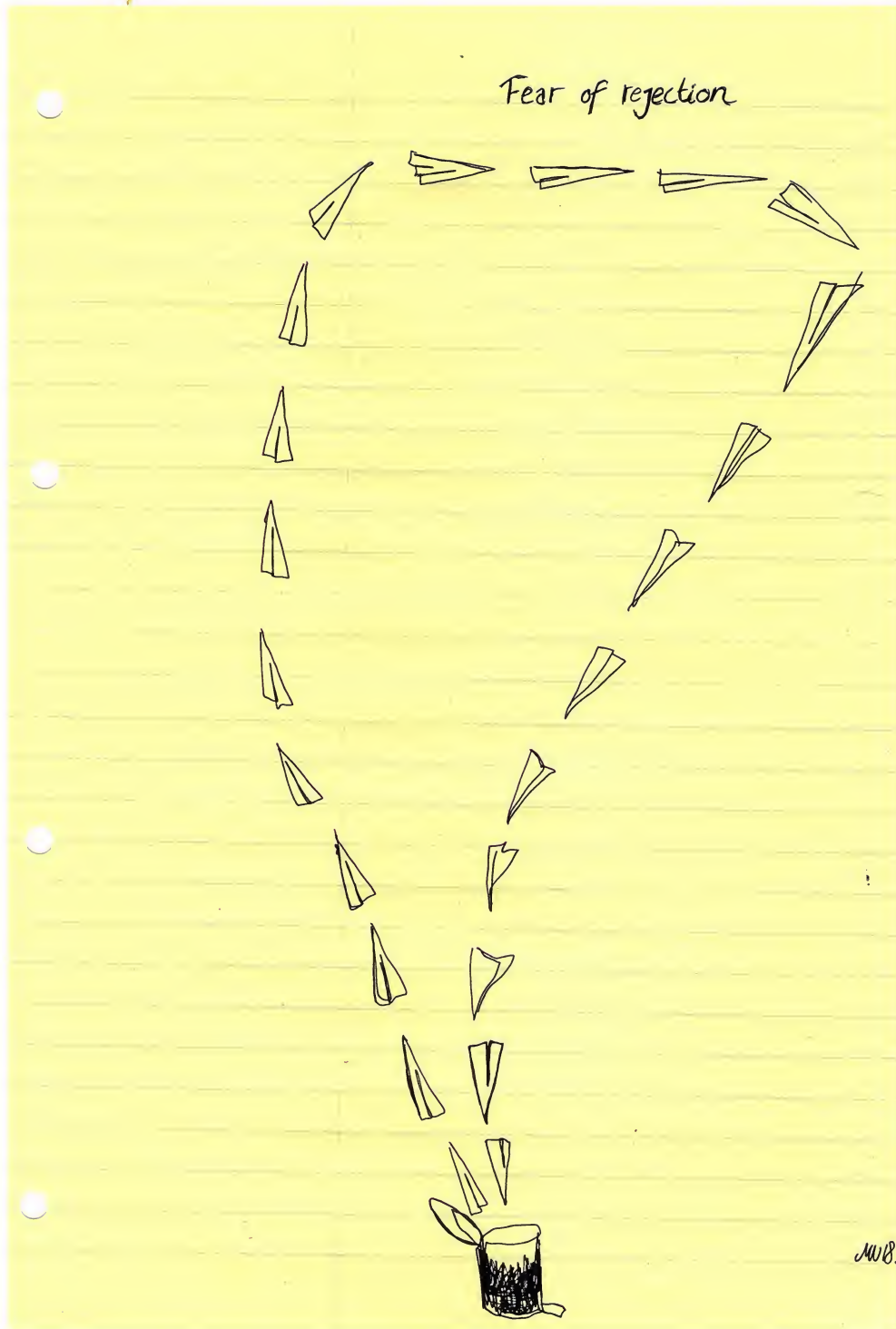






**MARIPOSA PART.I AND PART.II**  
PAULA-MARTINA  
@SINISTER.WAVE  
PAULAMARTINA.BIGCARTEL.COM

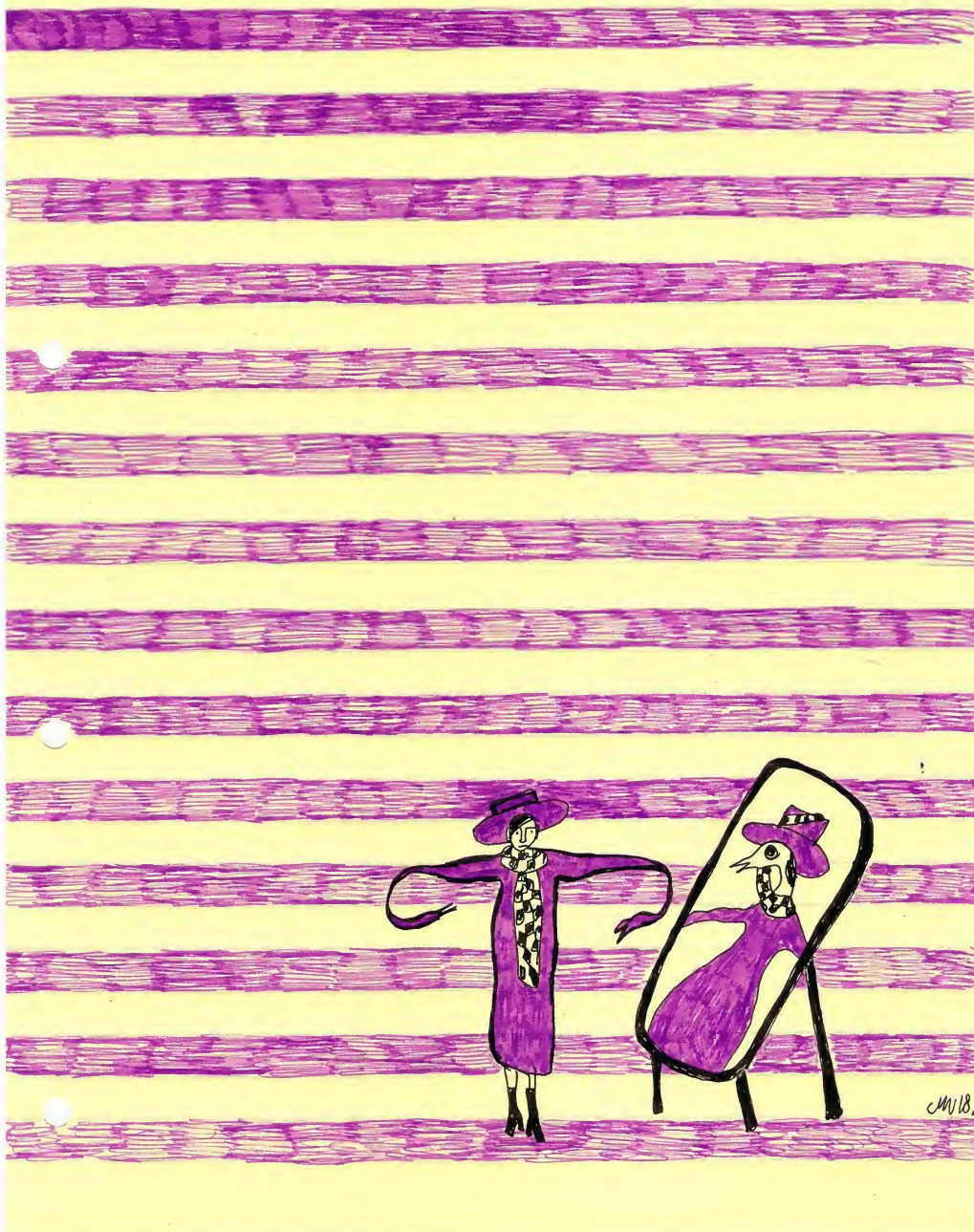




Fear of rejection



The mirror



The mirror  
Mette Norrie  
@norrieart  
mettenorrie.com



# CASSA C.

"Importacion Directa"



# TOYOTA

Mercado Central (Guatemala City)

Nick Caiazza

@nickcaiazza

nickcaiazza.com





1-46

Canela Enciense

Vasos para Ve dora

ilos para Canela Para

1<sup>a</sup> CALLE 1-46  
Z.9 LA TERMINAL

Mecha

Cominos














# Epilogue for my Father

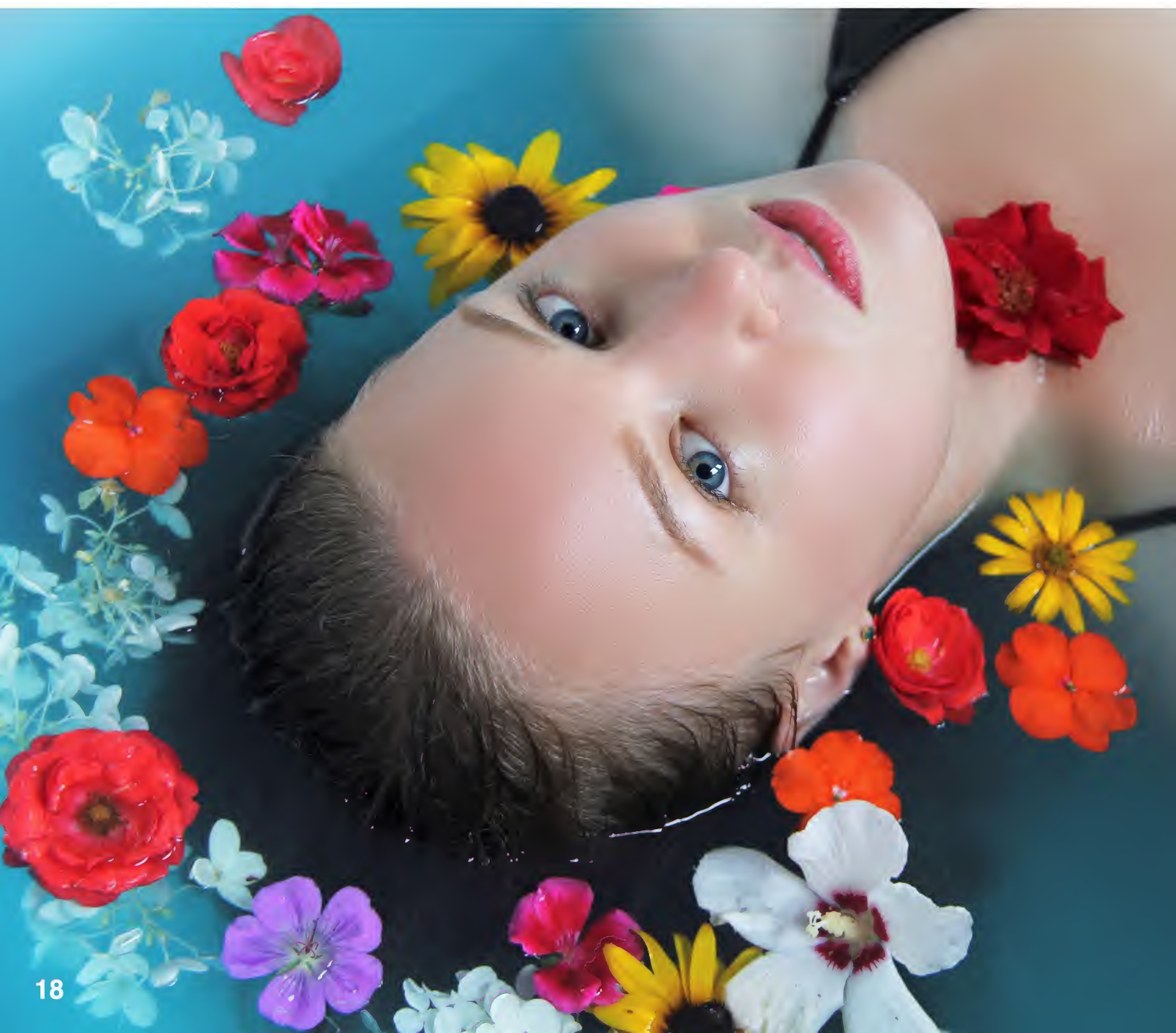
A commentary on the line between human life and death  
Holly Parkinson | @tonystarkinson



When the time came, my father's bags were not packed  
True to form.  
Possessions scattered hemisphere wide.  
A red velvet gown hangs reluctantly over his shoulders,  
Analogous to how he'd hang his cases before a planned departure.  
We watched as he marched, accompanied, out into the white  
His back turned.  
Cold.

It is a wide windowed summer when his letter arrives,  
Hand printed on soft grey parchment:  
'Floreat Aether, my darling girls,  
for it is akin to home.  
I wish you were here.'









## ***In Bloom***

*Photography and creative direction: Sherry Wang, @sherry.png*

*Model: Natalie Canham, @natcanham*





Contemporary Women Series 3

| Rhaiah Spooner-Knight

| @badgalwayway



As a woman who associates with multiple ethnicities, i felt it was important to touch on this idea of being mixed racially in a world where that concept is still being accepted in today's society. I wanted this series to reflect my idea of what I see as the Contemporary women of now and in the future. I use bright colors and collage to celebrate the natural women herself! while also commenting on other racial and political issues minority groups in the U.S have been dealing with for years and in the current political state of America.

The very concept of being a women in modern society has objectified our exterior beauty and created ridiculous ideas that women feel the pressure to attain-whether they believe they feel it or not, it is undeniable there. While all the more steering away from the natural beauty we inhabit from simply being a women.

I chose to portray a range of lighter skin, brown skin and dark skin women because I feel like this group is by far objectified the most and not celebrated enough!

These paintings reflect the political, and social struggles of being a culturally diverse women in this day n age.

cont. page 40





# Odious Forms



The Odious Forms celebrate femininity in all its leaking and oozing condition. The monstrous female is rejoiced in all its gruesome beauty as you confront abjection and anxieties. Here, you encounter the female experience as you truthfully know it.

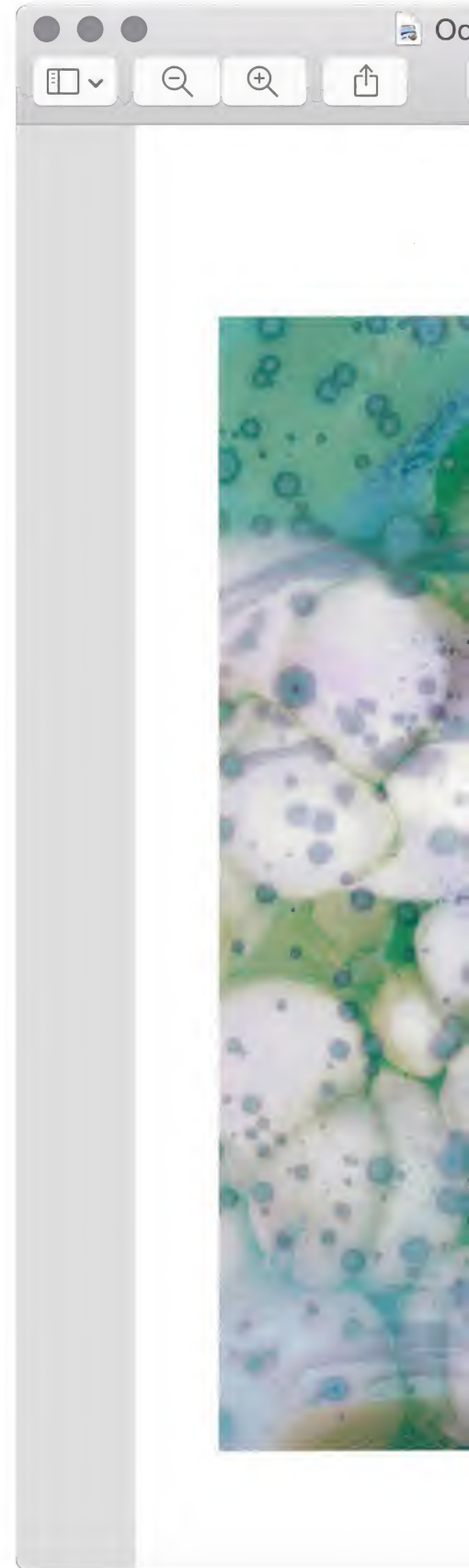
In researching the shaming and controlling of the female body, with particular focus on the Catholic Church's ideals of purity, The Odious Forms were built for the reclamation and repossession of it and to counter oppressive manifestations that dismiss and humiliate the female condition. Female purity is problematic when it is desired by powerful systems such as Catholicism and patriarchy, thus resulting in the raw reality of female abjection being denied.

The costume, inspired by Julia Kristeva's psychoanalytic theories on Abjection (*The Powers Of Horror*, 1982) demonstrate what the Catholic Church rejects. Kristeva argues that attempting to stabilise the abject (with such things as religion) is a state of denial and a way of attempting to purify the dark subconscious. Although she also argues that we are increasingly drawn to it, curiosity tempts us to examine our human state and yet we are unsettled by the ambiguity of it.



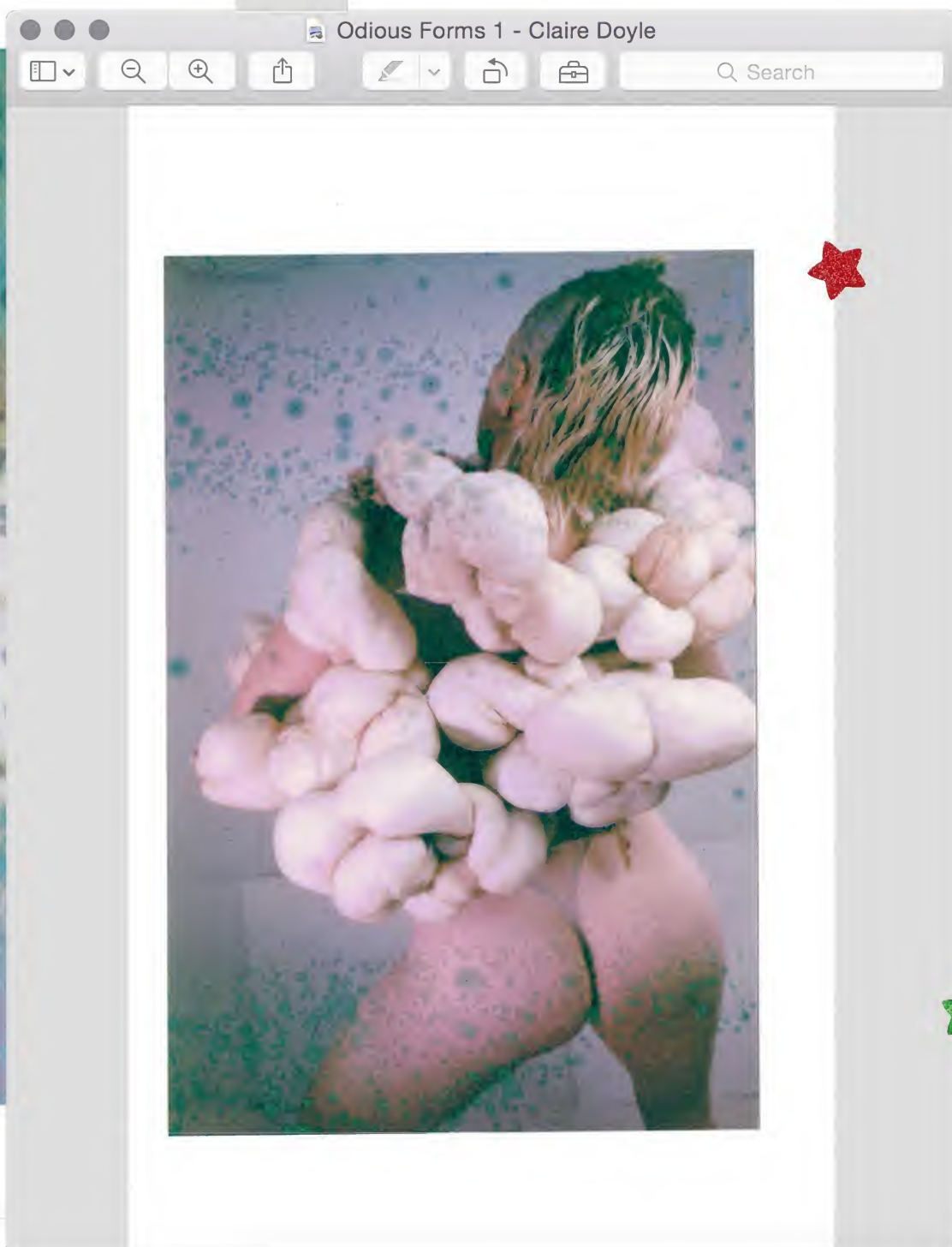
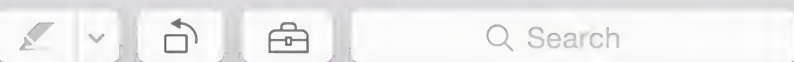
"One does not know it, one does not desire it, one joys in it. Violently and painfully. A passion" (1982: 9).

The Odious Forms costume had also been photographically documented with 35mm film which was initially immersed in female excrement, including urine. Due to this developing method, some of the photographs are beautifully distorted by the abject process.





ious Forms 2 - Claire Doyle

















## **BETTER THAN THIS**

from Bryn's Tempest

Spotify | Apple Music | iTunes | Website | Instagram



So I'll watch you in slow motion  
Feeling that tension rise  
Oh see you me see you see us put on a show



And there are magnets in my bones Did you know this?  
Can you see them? Do they show

*Cause you're drawing me cross the room I'm fracturing inside  
I don't care quite care where I am  
As long as its in your eye line*

**So keep me at an arms length I swear you'll love me better With no past tense  
For us to hold together**

**I know I know**

**So keep me at an arms length I swear you'll love me better With no past tense  
For us to hold together**

**I know  
I know  
You'll never love me better than this**

I'll throw on my second skin The one that won't quite fit Take a look at me now

Now let me dazzle you The way I want to  
The I know, how.



*And I'm falling just right into you  
The sweet way you believe  
I wanna walk right out this crowd with you Take you far away with me*

**Chorus**



Better, better. Better. Better, better. Better.  
Better, better. Better. Better, better. Better.  
Better, better. Better. Better, better. Better.  
Better, better. Better. And you could love me better than this You could love me better than this

**So keep me at an arms length I swear you'll love me better**

**With no past tense  
For us to hold together I know  
I know**

**And hold me like your last breath Like we could stay forever There's no future plan  
For us to be together  
I know  
I know  
And I'll never love you better than this**

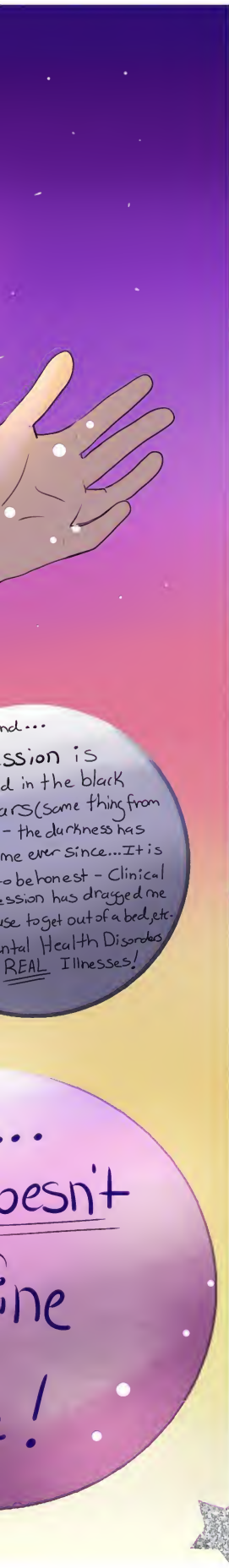


## It Doesn't Define me

My visual ideas were inspired between some of Gorillaz Songs (Saturnz Barz, Clint Eastwood, Andromeda, and Tranz) imagine my mental health and some people told me that the Universe has already surrounded me if I wanted to keep fighting my darkest moments and keep believing in myself.







nd...  
ssion is  
d in the black  
ars (some thing from  
- the darkness has  
me ever since... It is  
o be honest - Clinical  
ession has dragged me  
use to get out of a bed, etc.  
ntal Health Disorders  
REAL Illnesses!

...  
oesn't  
ine  
!  
.



## It's all in your Head

The pose was inspired one of 2010's TeenVogue magazine photoshoot of Emma Watson.

Meghan LeVaughn  
@meghansdreamdesigns  
[meghansdreamdesignsblog.tumblr.com/](http://meghansdreamdesignsblog.tumblr.com/)









**EMILY**  
MALLORY THOMPSON  
@MALLORYEXPLORES





# TO DESIRE THE FEELIN

SHAYLA SIMONE | @





# NG OF BEING WANTED

MELODRAMATICSIGHS



*This photo is a part of a series I did based on my first girl x girl song that I wrote a couple of years ago. I had just started listening to Hayley Kiyoko at the time, and the fact that she was so open and so real when it came to sexuality... it made me feel empowered and more okay with the fact that it's okay to like whoever I like. It made me realize that there could be romantic songs about girls being in love with girls, rather than them using each other as a one time experiment. So, the lyric from my song that I associated this photo of Elly and Dani (these gorgeous models) with is, "'Cause here we are, holding each other real close. And he's far from what you call home."*





Each As Worthy As The Next (9x12", mixed media, resin) is a celebration of bodies not always regarded as perfect or beautiful: fat bodies, scarred bodies, bodies with disabilities, or bodies that fall outside the typical gender binary. Showing them all together, presented as beautiful and acceptable, because ultimately they all hold the same worth.





Self Portrait (8×10" mixed media, resin) is a physical expression of me coming out of a long depressive episode, emerging from a chaotic and unruly haze, and confronting the world again after having been absent for a long time.

Emily Adams  
@Slightly\_threadening  
[Slightlythreadening.daportfolio.com](http://Slightlythreadening.daportfolio.com)



**Where Have You Been?**

Julia Ratcliffe

@jahuliya

redbubble.com/jahuliya



**Acception**











*Contemporary Women Series 6*  
30x40inch Oil, Acrylic & Mixed-media on canvas  
Rhaiah Spooner-Knight.  
@badgalwayway  
[rhaiahsk.portfoliobox.net/](http://rhaiahsk.portfoliobox.net/)





### *3 Steps to Surviving a Traffic Stop As a Black Person in America*

#### *Step One*

- *Don't drive*

#### *Step Two*

- *Make yourself look as harmless as possible.  
Put your hands on the steering wheel.  
Keep your voice down.  
Don't make eye contact.  
And say Sir or Ma'am.  
Make sure you are not in control.  
Make sure they know  
That you know  
Your opinion means nothing in this situation.*

#### *Step Three*

- *Pray that your skin will not be seen as a weapon  
Pray that they won't misconstrue your questions  
As resistance  
Pray that by the Grace of God  
You can come home  
Pray your complexion will not be  
Your death sentence  
And that is how you survive a traffic stop.  
Maybe...*

*Everyday, I turn on the news or open up one of my social media platforms I am watching someone who looks like me die. Everyday, I watch a life be unjustly taken from this world and I cannot help but think when am I or my loved ones next? When will they be pulled over for a taillight and end up in a body bag? When will I be sitting in a coffee shop and be escorted out by police? These questions inspired this poem because although we like to think we are all treated equally...that is a lie. Some of us cannot even go for a drive without fearing for our lives.*

*Cheyenne Tyler Jacobs | @shewillsspeak | shewillsspeak.com*









Sam in the kitchen sink II  
Sherilyn Furneaux  
@bigbabyintoyland



The Pretty Ones | Jason Ewing | @jasonewing\_art



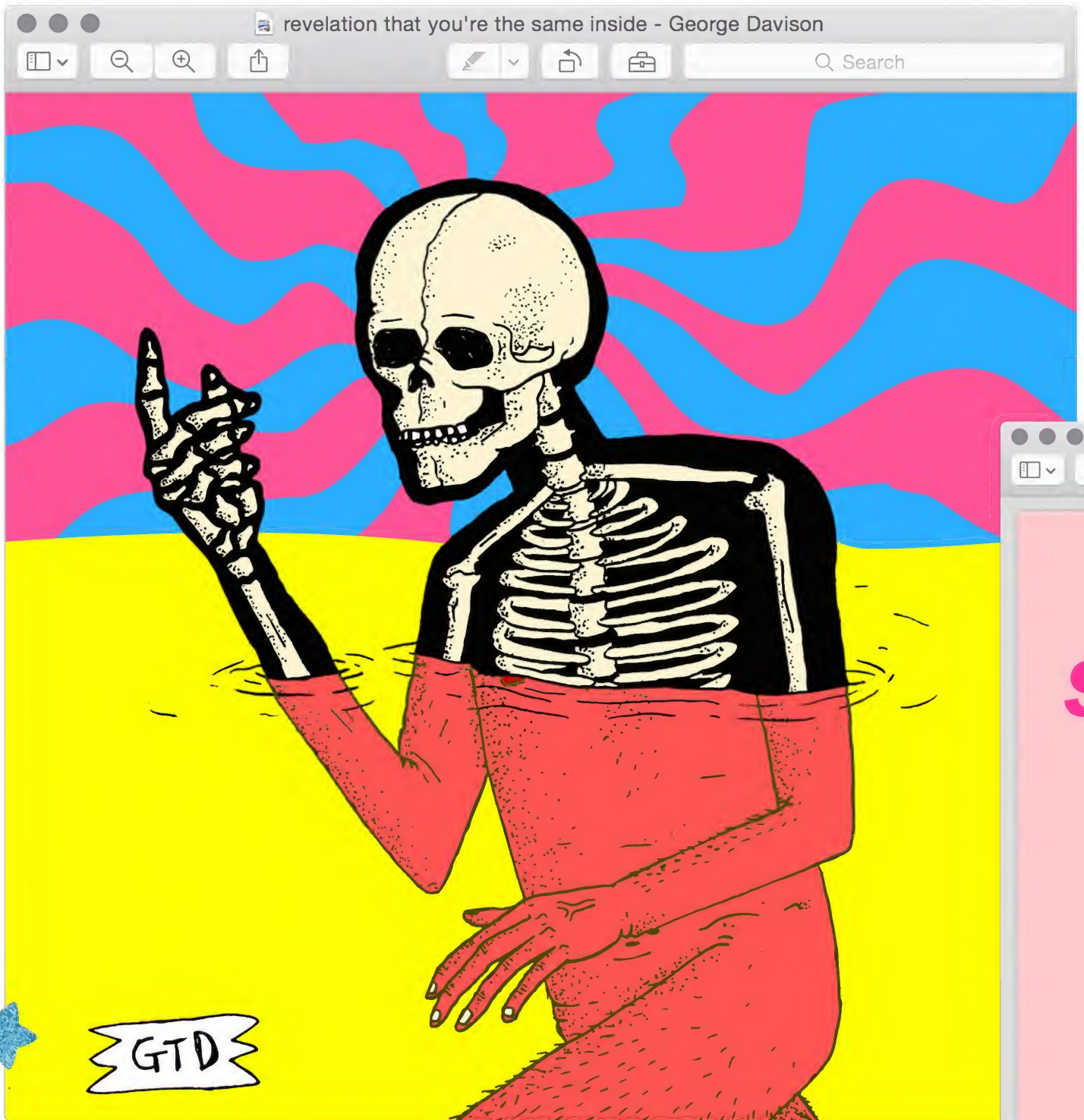








4-ES



**REVELATION THAT YOU'RE THE SAME INSIDE**  
GEORGE DAVISON  
@GTD\_STUFF



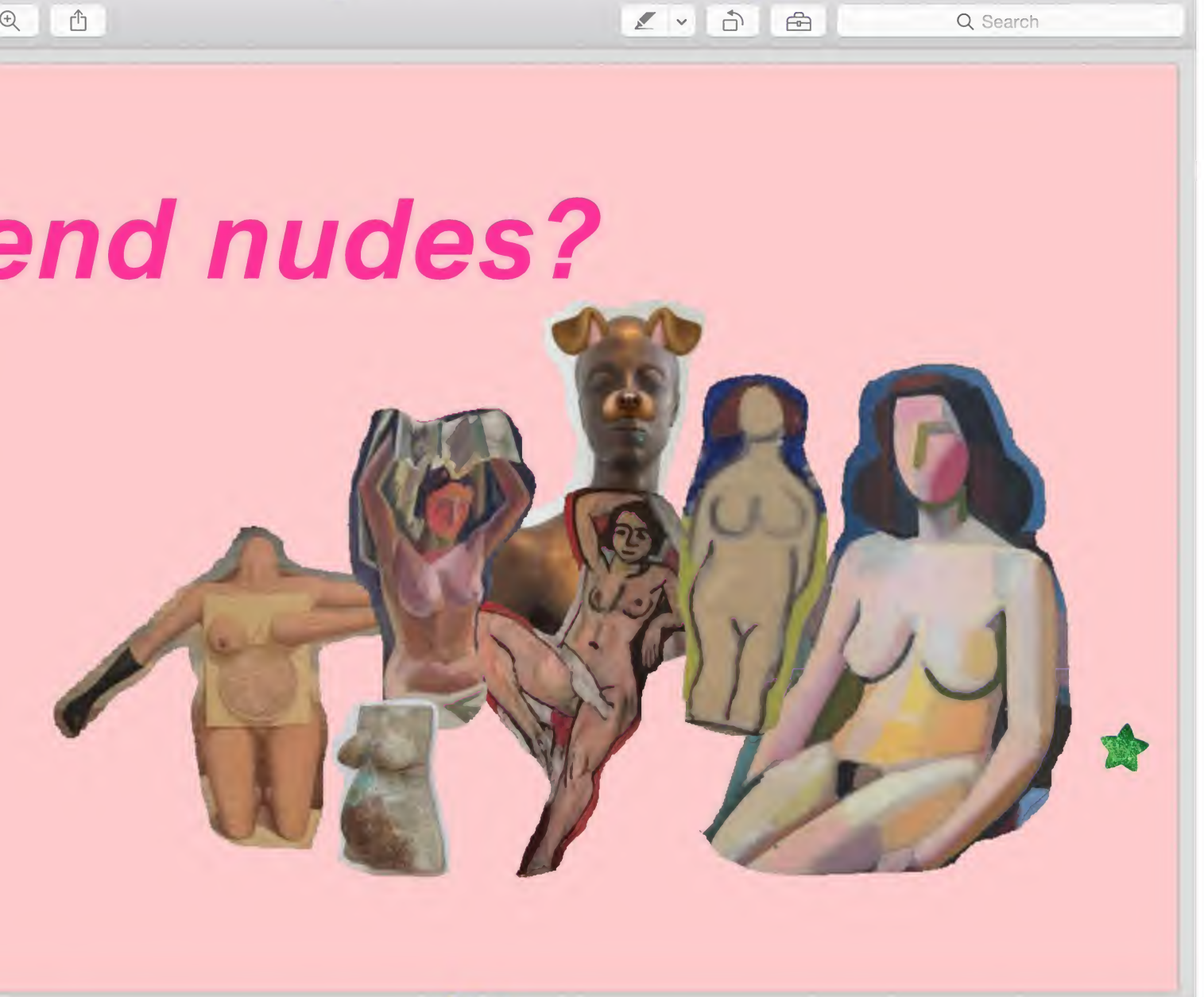




**SEND NUDES?**  
HOLLY PARKINSON  
@TONYSTARKINSON



Send Nudes? - Holly Parkinson (1 page)







Strength (left)  
our thoughts become our actions (right)  
Kat Spence  
@gizmo\_art86



Anne inspires me to draw on my own imagination to create whimsical, powerful pieces through found images and mixed media. In her classes I have learnt to use acrylic inks to create mood in my work, and we are now experimenting with acrylic paints for colourful backgrounds for my collage work. Her training in fine art makes her a terrific teacher, she is very encouraging and engaging with her students. Her studio bursts with colour, books, mixed media tools, and art abounds on the walls, even collage flowers greet you at the front door!

My piece, our thoughts become our actions is an exploration into how our thoughts impact the way we act-through thinking positively we can create joy in the world. The transient and transformational nature of thoughts is shown through butterflies in this piece.

My other piece explores the strength of the female spirit expressed throughout the world in various ways, from the home, to artists, to society as a whole. Women are strong and resilient, through supporting one another, we can change the world.





# BE HUMAN - ANTHOLOGY

Enrique R. Perez, MD | @enriqueperez6163

what of this mysterious sentiment ?  
where the joy of awakening resonates,  
where the seeds of enlightenment cultivate,  
where the enslavement of chaos is banished;

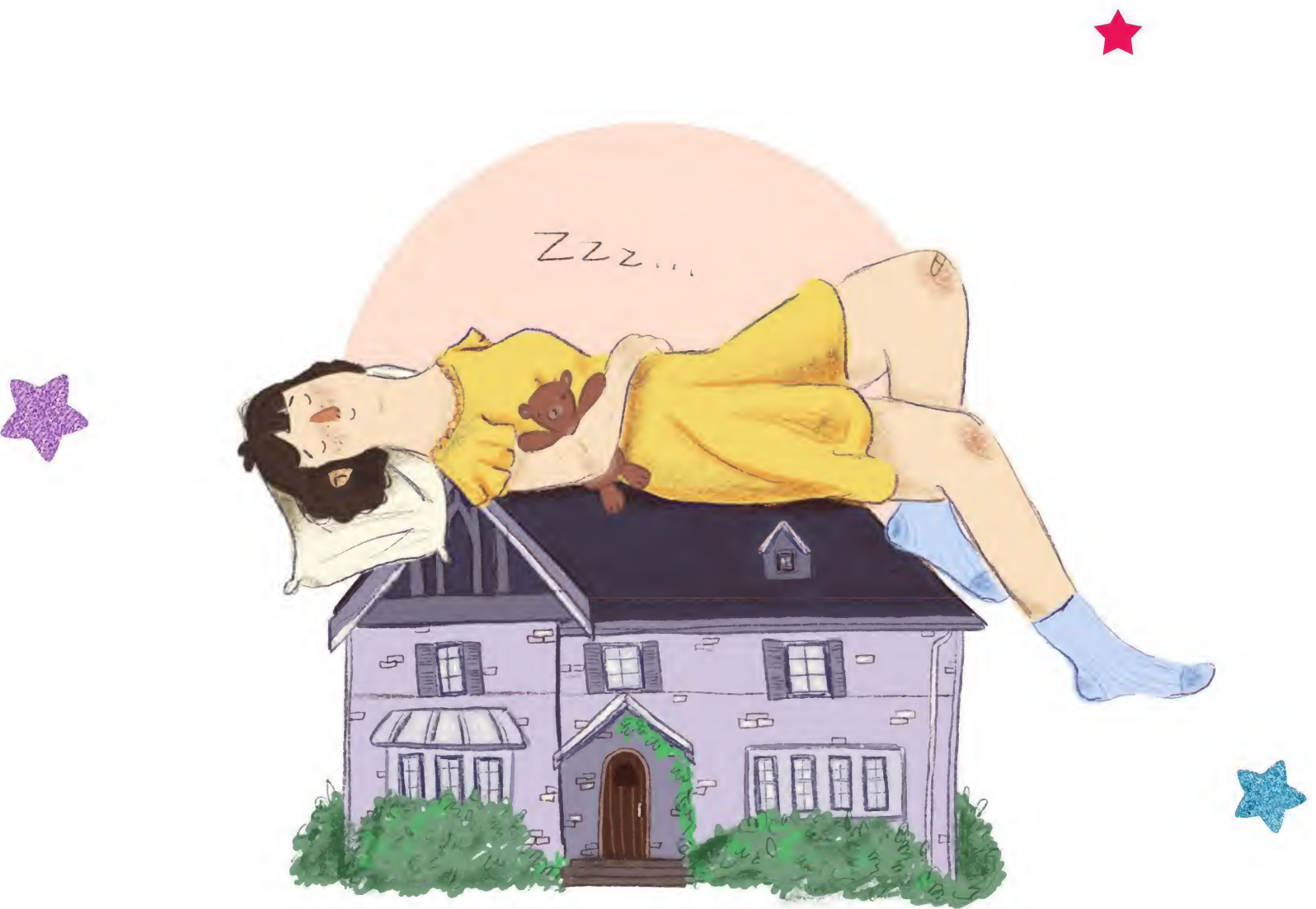
ahh, yes...the only truth of the human experience,  
the courageous journey of personal consciousness,  
yes indeed the realm of the Spirit,  
the divine manifested within....



BE HUMAN.







Comfy at Home | Dina | @DinaDraws36 | [facebook.com/DinaDraws36](https://facebook.com/DinaDraws36)

I believe that all humans share the same goal of one day attaining a place that they can call home. It may not always be a physical house, but simply a place where we can feel comfortable, safe, and free to be ourselves. Our bodies are like our first homes, where we try to understand our internal and external experiences, and what it means to live as a human being.

I believe that creating and nurturing this kind of place is vital to our growth and overall happiness as we are trying to navigate our (sometimes scary and uncertain) surroundings, which is why people experiencing homelessness is such an unfortunate and unfair reality. Their ability to create safe spaces for themselves outside of the typical house is truly admirable, and changes the preconception of what a home can be.







## Red Woman

Christie Carriere

@chris\_jwc

carriere-christie.format.com



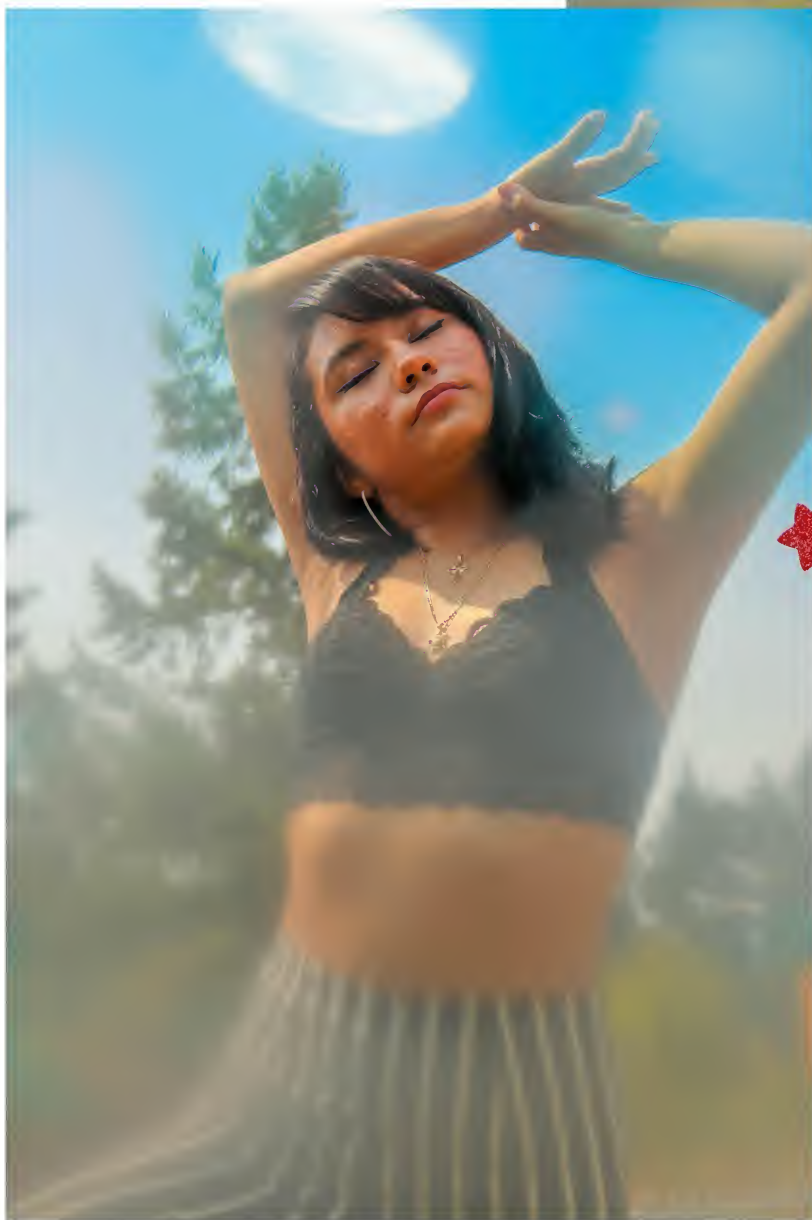




One person can be many people in manner, feelings, and in productivity depending upon the situation. Who are you now? And who can you be in the future?



acets  
ia Leal  
obably  
bably/



**In My Back Yard**  
Natalie Carranza  
Model: Lesley Carranza













### **Dollars or Change**

Album by Joshay  
@josh.altmann

### **Josh Altmann**

Apple Music | Spotify

### **Hollywood Road**

Apple Music | Spotify

### **Pancake People**

Jennifer Udema

@jennmu

[jenniferudema.wordpress.com/](http://jenniferudema.wordpress.com/)



Khan el-Khalili (Ca

N

@

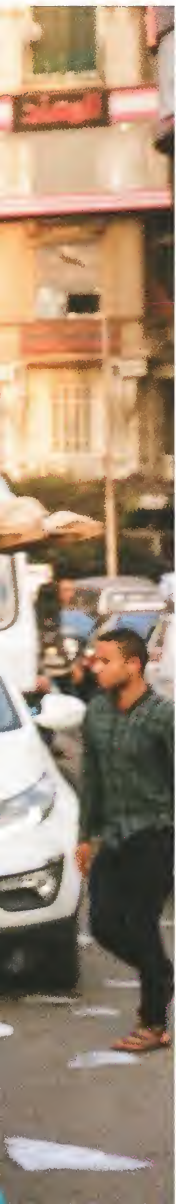
nick







iro, Egypt)  
Nick Caiazza  
@nickcaiazza  
nickcaiazza.com



### Body And Spirit

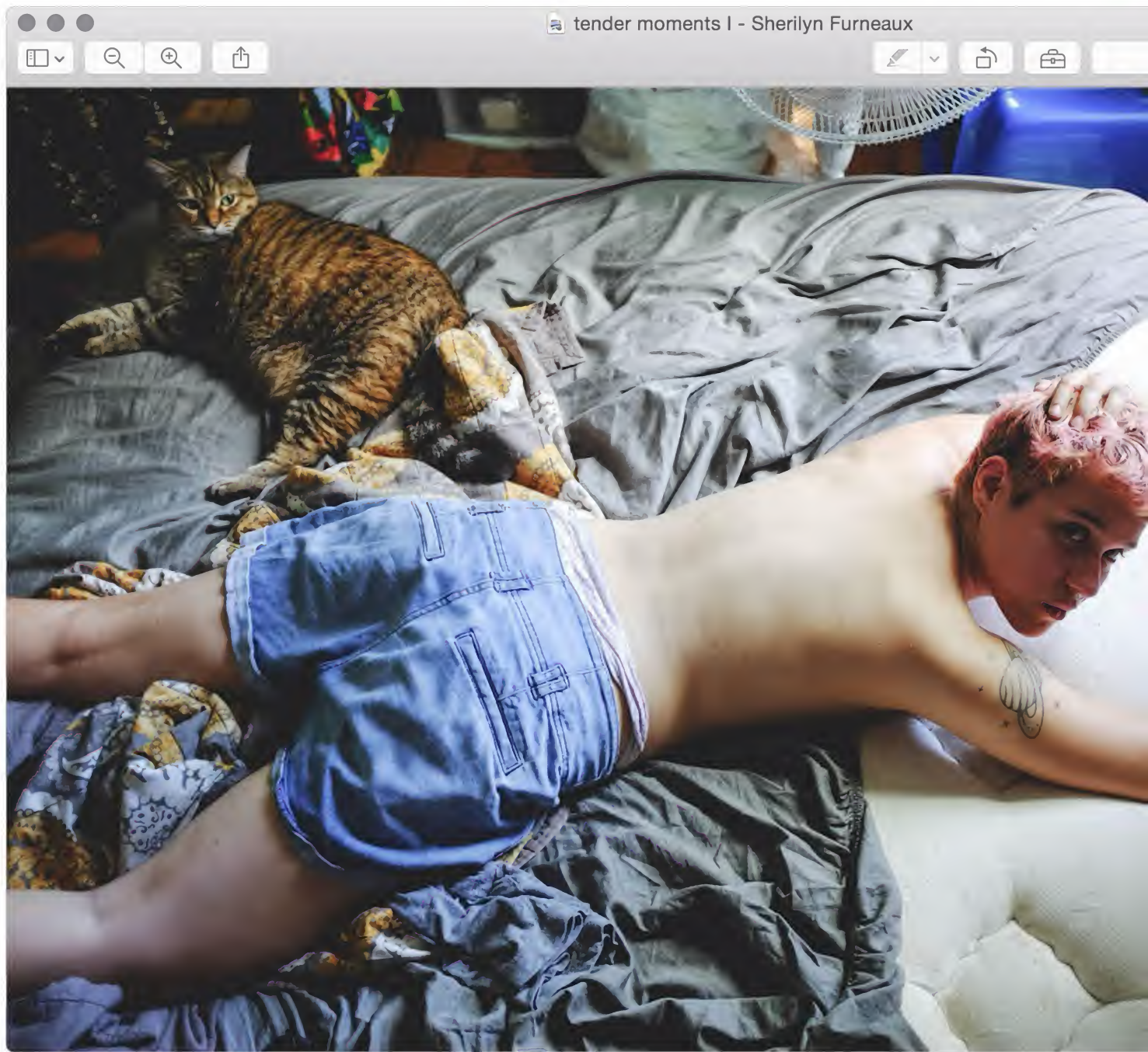
Anna Ryan

@DesertSirenArt

facebook.com/DesertSirenArt/



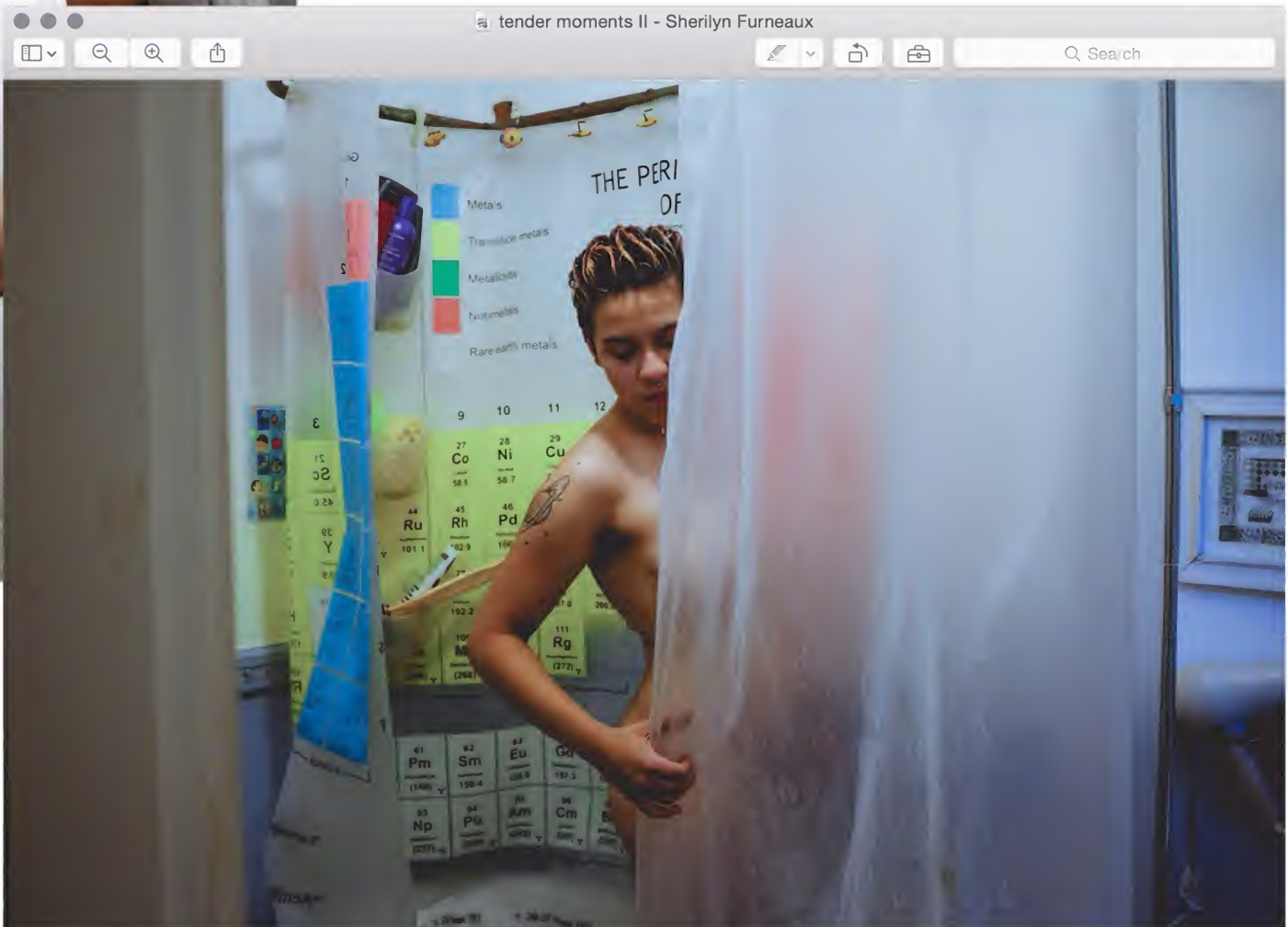








TENDER MOMENTS  
@BIGBABYINTOYLAND  
SHERILYN FURNEAUX







Static Brain

Influenced by the concept of Yin and Yang, I explore how seemingly contrary forces are in and dark, I examine memories and feelings, extracting the positive and negative qualities





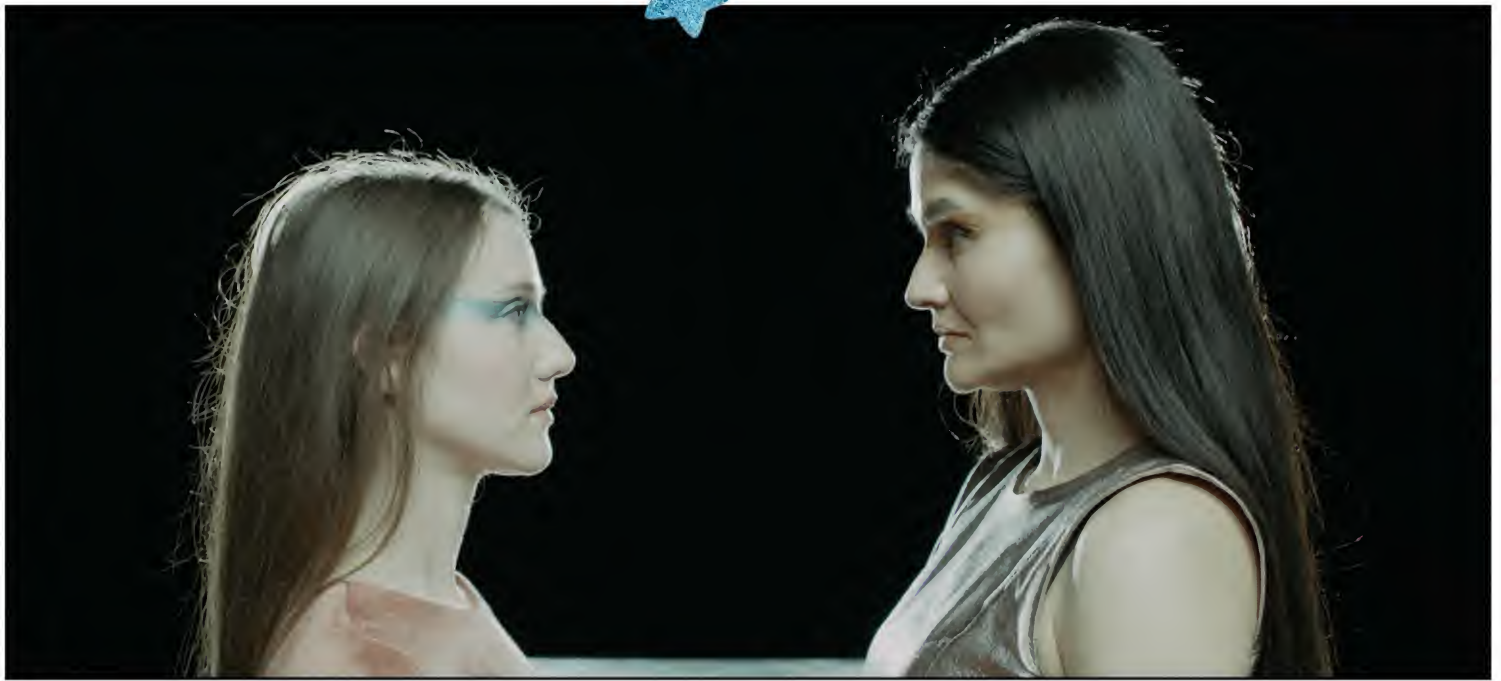
**Seventeen**  
Katelyn Wallach  
@liteghost

interconnected and interdependent of each other. Focusing primarily on the duality of light  
of each experience. There is no darkness without light and no light without darkness.









## **HUMAN**

@human.band.music

facebook.com/human.band.music

humanbandmusic.com

*We are a close harmony electronic act called HUMAN.*

*Our concept is about the crossover of Humanity and Technology.*

*What are we evolving into?*

*Are we becoming so disconnected with reality that we've forgotten what it is to be Human?*

*We'll be releasing our first single "The Ground" on the 28/09/2018 on Spotify along with our music video.*

*The laundry room in my apartment building has a communal book shelf; this celestial background came from a beautiful Interior Design magazine I found there. The house painting by Claude Monet came from my Grandmother's old engagement book. The cut wasn't wide enough for this piece, so I took about an inch off the bottom and added it to the left and right side. Tearing the woman's face into strips allows her expression and gaze to be perceived in any number of ways.*

## **Retrograde Time Machine**

**Collage The World**

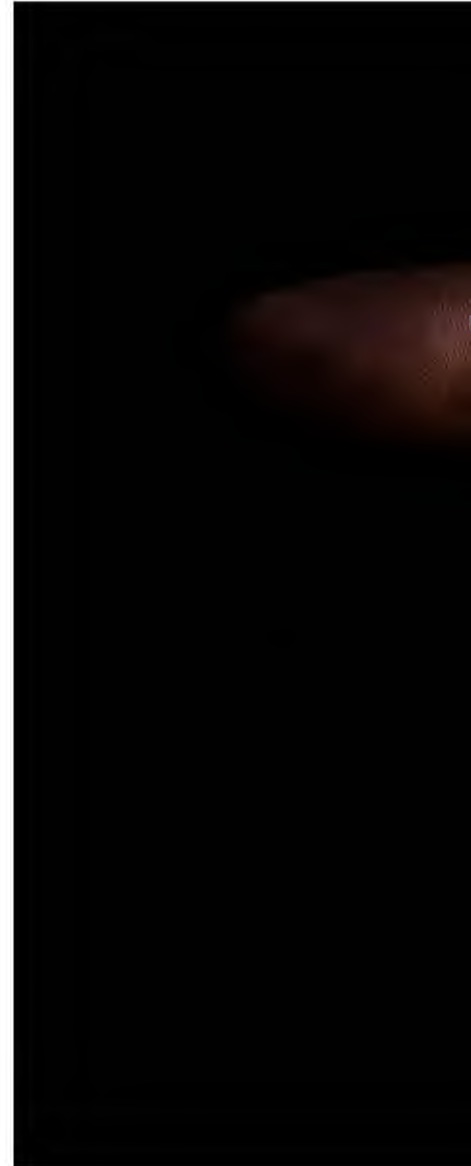

@collagetheworld



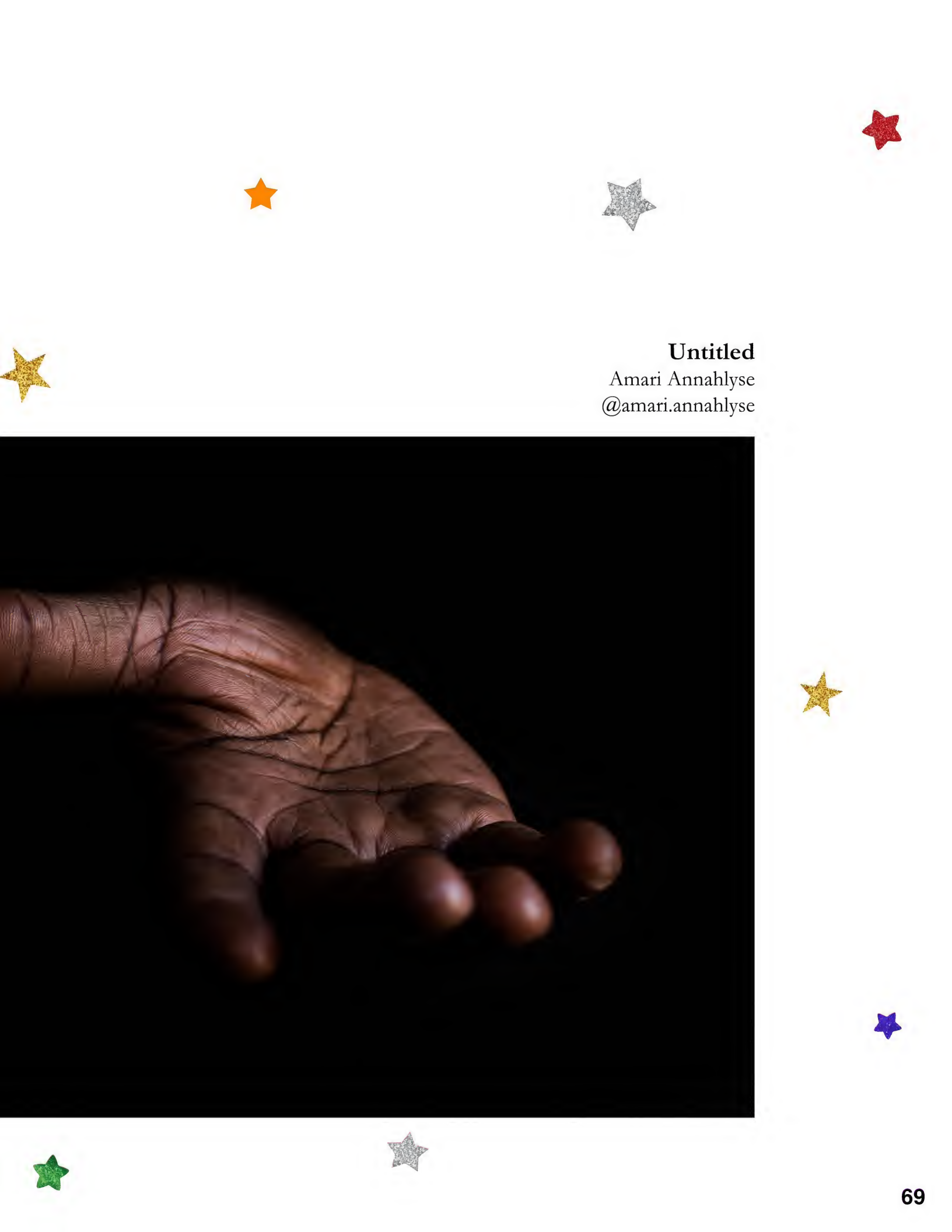
# DINNER IS SERVED

Cheyenne Tyler Jacobs | @shewillsspeak | shewillsspeak.com

It must be hard  
Having your feelings  
Suffocated  
And then being expected  
To broadcast them to  
The world  
As if you were a puppet  
As if you were something  
That can be taken out  
When needed  
And put away when  
It is too much  
You, young man  
Were served  
Micro-aggressions  
At your dinner table  
And you were made  
To wash it down with  
Silence  
And you had to enjoy it  
Being a Man  
Isn't as easy as we make it  
I think there are many layers  
To peel back  
Many years of silent trauma  
Unspoken heartaches  
And invalidated emotions  
But don't let that discourage you  
You, sir  
Don't have to live in this box  
When you were created  
To rewrite it all  
I believe you can break that table  
And serve whatever you need  
But silence  
Oh silence  
I really hope  
You leave that  
Off the menu







## Untitled

Amari Annahlyse  
@amari.annahlyse











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# *My name is Sylvia Mac,*

Child Burn Survivor and Founder of Love Disfigure who campaigns in raising awareness and showing support for those with differences and disfigurement. Two years ago, I released an online video that revealed my scars and shared on facebook. The comments that I received were so positive that I decided to create a facebook group which now holds over 3.2k members. Earlier this year I put together a photoshoot which included men, women and children of all ages, ethnicities, size, differences, disabilities pose in swimwear so that we could together challenge the fashion industry to become inclusive. The campaign was very successful and went into many online publications, press articles as well as live Television morning show called ITV This Morning. I then went on to share the photos with channel 5 news and recently Daily Mirror newspaper article. It has become such a successful campaign that some big brands decided to include people in their campaigns with differences such as psoriasis, vitiligo, scars etc. I recently put on a beach reveal and encouraged all women to join me wearing bikinis so that we could together share our photos and help others online. I find it extremely important to be active so I can show that I'm not just sitting behind a keyboard all day but including everyone to join me on my campaign. I have also managed to connect with a large online swimwear retailer called swimwear365 who supports Love Disfigure. I have also been lucky enough to meet many wonderful inspiring people along my journey such as Sharron Davies MBE TV Sports Presenter & Olympic Swimmer, Professor Greg Whyte and Jeremy Vine. I thoroughly enjoy my work and meeting lots of inspiring people and all the wonderful messages I receive daily. I'm looking forward to what the future holds for Love Disfigure as my campaigns will grow bigger and bigger with time."

Sylvia Mac  
@love\_disfigure







Photographs by Mandy L Meadows







PHOTOGRAPH BY MANDY L MEADOWS







91% 10:26 PM



EDIT



## Public Indecency

I'm looking at all the other girls  
And their flouncy hair  
Why can't mine lay flat like that  
Instead of these busted straws  
That stick out funny  
I should grow my hair out  
But these haircuts keep getting shorter



I forgot my watch and I feel empty  
Left my red bull in the fridge  
And my nails aren't painted  
I'm an hour late to pre  
And my friends are hungry

Didn't know where to catch the bus  
Ended up at the wrong platform end  
Good thing the driver needed coffee  
He tells me he doesn't pick up here  
I should've been waiting on the other side

My makeup is a little funny  
My eyeliner makes it look like I have no eyelashes  
And I wish I was brunette  
Cause they're way more sultry



90% 10:26 PM



EDIT



I really wish I was paler sometimes but then  
again I don't  
I get a real nice suntan, never been a lobster  
I think I'm sitting weird  
How do regular people cross their legs  
Where do I put my hands so it doesn't look like  
they're creepy

My music is it too loud?  
Dammit my earbud got stuck between my legs  
My phone slammed the floor  
Sorry please ignore  
No dad please stop calling this space is too  
enclosed

Maybe nobody noticed  
Or maybe everyone did  
This is why I can't be in public  
Everything was wrong  
I should've hid



Last modified: 10:26 PM



## Public Indecency







90% 10:33 PM



EDIT



## Seoul Searching

Harabaji says Korea is the place where you can see the mountains the city and the ocean all under one sun but here you're stuck in traffic on highway 401

Halmonie goes to Korea she misses all her sisters whom I have never known and all my distant cousins aunts and uncles

How is it that people see me as from a land across oceans and ask me what I think of nuclear explosion but I dont know that home at all

Take me to Korea  
I wanna be Korean too  
Take me to Korea  
Where people look more like me  
Take me to Korea  
Maybe I'll finally fit in  
Take me to Korea  
I won't but I really want too



90% 10:33 PM



EDIT



Halmonie brings me gifts cotton underwear and change purses paper dolls with painted slippers heart shaped broches covered in crystals

Harabuji says it's different a nation of a future time but don't go in summer September will be just fine

How is it that people see me as from a land across oceans and ask me what I think of nuclear explosion but I dont know that home at all

Take me to Korea  
I wanna be Korean too  
Take me to Korea  
Where people look more like me  
Take me to Korea  
Maybe I'll finally fit in  
Take me to Korea  
I won't but I really want too

I know Seoul's in my soul.



Last modified: 10:32 PM



## Seoul Searching

Marisa Cho  
@marisajcho





## Untitled

jeronimo batista rosa chaveiro  
@NomadeCollage







indifference

IM MORAL

Scrupulous

UP-LIFTING

PROTECTIVE

FEAR

ATTACKING

Sincerity

CHARITY  
HUMILITY

PEACE

FITS OF  
ANGST

CYNICAL

OPENMINDED

magnanfully

ACCEPTANCE

GENEROSITY

TRUTH

Naive

ANGER

CLOSED OFF

FORGIVENESS  
guarded

BETRAYAL  
JEALOUSY

honor

PREJUDICE

JOY

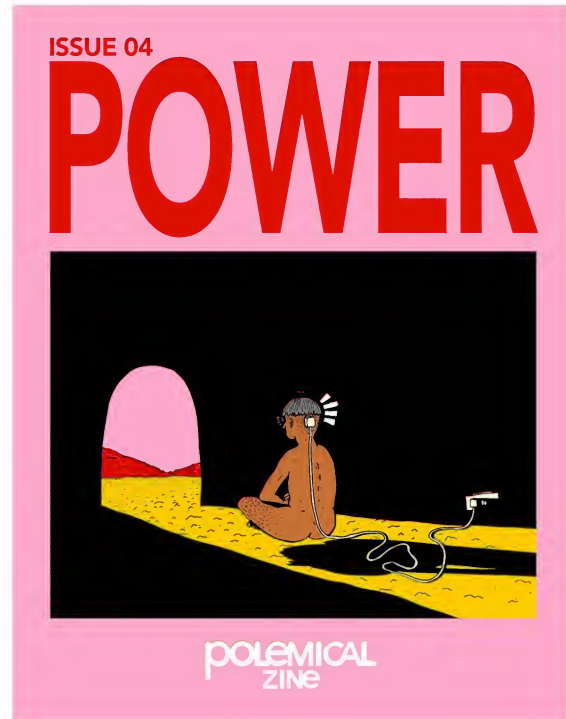




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